NO. 10
NO. 27
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D STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TO Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 3, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Trotter

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

It has previously been reported that Ray resided at Harkay Apartments, 2589 Rue Notre Dame Est, Montreal, Canada, for about six weeks, moving out about Labor Day, 1967, but that no record of his tenancy could be located. The apartment owner has found a six months' lease executed by Eric S. Galt on 7/17/67 for Apartment 18. The lease was for the period of 7/18/67 to 1/18/68. Total rent was $450 payable at $75 a month.

The apartment owner has no record as to when the subject left but believes he skipped out on 9/2/67. A neighborhood investigation conducted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police did not develop any pertinent information concerning the subject.

Various allegations have been made that while Ray was in Missouri State Penitentiary he was well supplied with money and regularly received money from outside the prison. A review of Ray's account in the prison shows the following total cash deposits for each year:

1960	$ 33.06
1961	31.00
1962	50.00
1963	314.10
1964	102.50
1965	50.50
1966	71.10
1967	15.00
	$667.26

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Most of the above deposits were in small amounts, the largest deposit being $65 on 4/16/63. Only eight deposits were in amounts of more than $25 and the total of all deposits of $20 or more is $390.

It is noted Ray reportedly escaped 4/23/67. The last cash deposit to his account was in the amount of $15 on 2/3/67 after which the balance was $30.35. Various small withdrawals were made between 2/3/67 and 4/21/67 when the last withdrawal of $9.75 was made, leaving a balance of $4.36 when Ray escaped.

The official version of Ray's escape from Missouri State Penitentiary is that on 4/23/67 he concealed himself in a truck carrying bread from the prison to a prison farm. There have been allegations that he actually escaped in some other manner and on some other date.

In a report dated 5/3/67, Captain Danton Steele advised the Associate Warden he had investigated Ray's escape, the means of which had "remained a mystery for ten days" because of gross dereliction of duty by three and possibly five prison personnel. Steele reported the following details.

The guard who drove the truck watched inmates load the bread box for the farm and the box did not appear unusually heavy. The driver watched another guard check the truck before leaving the prison and the bread in the box for the farm was still neatly stacked near the top of the box; however, the report noted that the box holds sixty loaves and since only forty loaves were being sent to the farm, the bread should have extended only two-thirds the distance to the top of the box.

En route to the farm the truck stopped to deliver another box of bread and nothing unusual was noticed. Upon arrival at the farm, the bread was found to be torn and crushed so that only a few loaves were usable. This fact went unreported for ten days.

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Although Captain Steele concluded that Ray escaped in the bread truck, he pointed out that it would have been necessary for Ray to use a false bottom in the bread box if the bread was neatly stacked as described by two guards. No false bottom was found and Steele raised the question, "Why should the inmate dispose of the false bottom when the bread was mangled beyond use?"

[redacted] Oklahoma City, advised that she is acquainted with [redacted] who was released from Missouri State Penitentiary [redacted] 67. [redacted] told [redacted] that Ray had not escaped in a bakery truck as reported in the newspapers but had escaped in a guard's uniform which he obtained when he was working in the dry cleaning plant at the prison. [redacted] said that Ray and the guard had been good friends and that the guard has since been fired. It is noted that one inmate previously interviewed stated that Ray had actually walked out the front door instead of hiding in a bread truck.

ACTION:

Vigorous investigation is continuing to locate Ray as quickly as possible.